

Notice of Availability (NOA) for Newspaper Publication

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) prepared a Final Environmental Assessment (EA) and issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) in May 2013 which evaluated and addressed the potential environmental consequences of conducting the proposed launch, operation, and recovery of the Low Density Supersonic Decelerator (LDSD) Technology Demonstration Mission (TDM) test flights at the U.S. Navy's Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF) on Kauai, Hawaii. Based on information gleaned from the first test, NASA is preparing a Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the following statutes, regulations, and procedures:

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] 4321 et seq.);
- Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508);
- NASA NEPA Implementing Regulation (Subpart 1216.3);
- NASA Procedural Requirement 8580.1, NASA National Environmental Policy Act Management Requirements;
- Executive Order (EO) 12114, Environmental Effects Abroad of Major Federal Actions;
- Presidential Proclamation, 8031 Establishment of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument; and
- 50 CFR Part 404, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Marine National Monument.

The NASA LDSD SEA analyzes potential environmental consequences (environmental impacts) of changes planned for future campaigns. These changes consist of two alternatives. Alternative 1 consists of using an additional open ocean splashdown area within and outside of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) and adding additional launch years to the 2013 Final EA, and Alternative 2 consists only of adding additional launch years to the 2013 Final EA. For Alternative 1 (preferred alternative), these changes consist of (1) acquiring permit authorization (issuance of which is contingent upon final approval of this SEA and associated FONSI) for flight hardware to potentially fly over, splashdown, and be recovered (except the balloon flight train, which would rapidly sink in the open ocean) within the easternmost part of PMNM; and (2) performing up to two LDSD TDM test flights annually over the next 5 years, starting in June 2015 and ending in August 2019. For Alternative 2, these changes consist of additional testing of up to two missions per year over the next 4 years (June 2016–August 2019) from a designated location on PMRF using the flight trajectory outlined in the 2013 LDSD Final EA.

The Draft EA and comment form are available at:
http://sites.wff.nasa.gov/code250/docs/NASA_LDSD_DSEA.pdf and at the following locations:

- Hawaii State Library
Hawaii and Pacific Section Document Unit
478 South King Street
Honolulu, Oahu, HI 96813-2994
- Lihue Public Library
4344 Hardy Street
Lihue, Kauai, HI 96766
- Waimea Public Library
9750 Kaumualii Highway
Waimea, Kauai, HI 96796

Public comments on the Draft EA will be accepted through March 27, 2015. Submit written comments to: Steve Slaten, Jet Propulsion Laboratory Facilities and Environmental Manager at the following address or by calling (818) 393-6683, or by email at sslaten@nasa.gov.

Mr. Steven W. Slaten
NASA Management Office Environment and Facilities Manager
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
4800 Oak Grove Drive
MS 180-801
Pasadena, CA 91109